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PAGE 01 STATE 100773

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FOLLOWING REPEAT DAKAR 2524 ACTION SECSTATE LONDON NAIROBI
INFO ABIDJAN ADDIS ABABA ALGIERS CAIRO CONAKRY LAGOS LIBRE-
VILLE MAPUTO MOGADISCIO MOSCOW RABAT 23 APR

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAKAR 2524

LONDON AND NAIROBI FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

DEPT PLEASE REPEAT TO OTHER POSTS AS DESIRED

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OAU, XF, XA, SG

SUBJ: AFRO-ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS: PARTIAL SUCCESS

REF: DAKAR 2443, DAKAR 2381, ABIDJAN 3423

1. SUMMARY: AFRO-ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE CLOSED APRIL
22. DIFFERENCES WERE SUFFICIENTLY SERIOUS THAT FINAL COMMUNI-
QUE WAS NOT ADOPTED, AND TIME, PLACE FOR AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT
WAS NOT RPT NOT ESTABLISHED, BUT COMPROMISE WAS REACHED ON
DRAFT DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AND ACTION PROGRAM.
IVORY COAST HUNG TOUGH ON ZIONISM, AND FILED LETTER OF
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RESERVATION WITH OAU SYG ETEKI MBOUMOUA WHEN ZIONISM WAS

INCLUDED AMONG CONDEMNED "-ISMS" (COLONIALISM, IMPERIALISM, ETC.) IN FINAL DECLARATION. ARABS PROMISED \$6 MILLION LOW-INTEREST LOAN TO MOZAMBIQUE TO COMPENSATE FOR LATTER'S APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS AGAINST RHODESIA, BUT DRAFT CONSIDERED VAGUE ENOUGH TO BE DISAPPOINTING BY MANY AFRICANS. ANGOLA, GUINEA ABSENCE "REGRETTED" BY OAU SYG MBOUMOUA. END SUMMARY

2. FIRST AFRO-ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE CONCLUDED IN DAKAR ON SCHEDULE APRIL 22. CLOSING CEREMONY WAS DELAYED FOR ONE AND ONE HALF HOURS IN LAST-MINUTE UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE REMAINING DIFFERENCES. FINAL COMMUNIQUE WAS NOT ADOPTED DUE TO DIFFERENCES OF OPINION, NOR WERE DATE AND SITE APPROVED FOR UP-COMING AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT. CAIRO HAD BEEN WIDELY ASSUMED TO BE VENUE WITH JUNE OR JULY AS ROUGH TIME FRAME, BUT CONCERN AS TO PHYSICAL SECURITY OF SOME 60 HEADS OF STATE, AS WELL AS POLITICAL OBJECTIONS FROM UNNAMED ARABS MEANT THAT QUESTION HAS PASSED OFF TO OAU'S MBOUMOUA AND ARAB LEAGUE'S RIAD FOR SUGGESTIONS. SUBSEQUENT SPECULATION CENTERED AROUND JANUARY, 1977 DATE FOR SUMMIT.

3. COMPARISON OF DRAFT FINAL COMMUNIQUE (WHICH WAS REJECTED) WITH DRAFT SUBMITTED BY OAU'S PREPARATORY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE, WHICH MET IN ADDIS ABABA ON MARCH 26-27, 1976, INDICATES THAT OAU DRAFT WAS TECHNICAL, CALLING FOR SPECIFIC STEPS IN ECONOMIC COOPERATION. HOWEVER, DRAFT REJECTED BY DAKAR CONFERENCE WAS HIGHLY POLITICAL, FOR EXAMPLE, INCLUDING PROCLAMATION OF TOTAL SUPPORT FOR FIGHT OF PEOPLE OF PALESTINE, ZIMBABWE, NAMIBIA, "AZANIA" AND FRENCH SOMILILAND FOR RECOVERY OF THEIR "LEGITIMATE NATIONAL RIGHTS."

4. DRAFT DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AND ACTION PROGRAM WERE ACCEPTED WITH MODIFICATIONS FOR SUBMISSION TO PROJECTED JOINT OAU-ARAB LEAGUE SUMMIT. THIS DRAFT FOLLOWS CLOSELY DRAFT DEVELOPED AT JOINT MEETING OF OAU AND ARAB LEAGUE COMMITTEES OF 12 IN CAIRO FROM JULY 9-10, 1975. MODIFICATIONS ARE MAINLY EDITORIAL, EXCEPT FOR STRENGTHENING OF LANGUAGE CONCERNING PREFERENTIAL TRADE LINKS. DECLARATION AND ACTION PROGRAM ARE PRIMARILY TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 100773

CALLING FOR CLOSER COOPERATION IN WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES (E.G. PETROLEUM EXPLORATION, MINING, FORESTRY, EDUCATION, CULTURE, ETC.).

5. DESPITE FINAL SIMILARITY OF DRAFTS THERE WAS HEATED ARGUMENT OVER THEIR LANGUAGE. IVORY COAST MOVED TO DELETE ZIONISM FROM PROFORMA LIST OF CONDEMNED "-ISMS- (COLONIALISM, NEO-COLONIALISM, ETC.) THEY HUNG TOUGH ON THIS FOR TWO DAYS,

BUT FINALLY AGREED TO FINAL DRAFT STATING QUOTE: AFRICAN AND ARAB COUNTRIES... CONDEMN IMPERIALISM, COLONIALISM, NEO-COLONIALISM, ZIONISM, APARTHEID, AND ALL OTHER FORMS OF RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION AND SEGREGATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA, PALESTINE AND THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES." IN END, HOWEVER, IVORY COAST SUBMITTED FORMAL LETTER OF RESERVATION REGARDING INCLUSION OF ZIONISM TO OAU SEC GEN MBOUMOUA, WHO ACKNOWLEDGED RECEIPT OF THEIR COMMUNICATION AT POST-CONFERENCE PRESS BRIEFING. QUESTION OF EXPULSION OF ISRAEL DOES NOT APPEAR IN DECLARATION OR PROGRAM OF ACTION, AND WE HEARD IN CORRIDORS NO RPT NO INDICATION THAT IT WAS DISCUSSED.

6. OTHER POLITICAL ISSUES INCLUDED ANTI-FRENCH HARANGUES BY SOMALIA AND COMORO ISLANDS, TIFB BETWEEN NIGERIA/GABON AND NON-OIL PRODUCING AFRICANS, AND MOZAMBIQUE'S REQUEST FOR SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO COMPENSATE FOR ITS APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS TO RHODESIA. \$6 MILLION LOAN TO MOZAMBIQUE FROM ARAB FUND FOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE WAS AGREED TO, -5 1 PERCENT INTEREST, REPAYABLE IN 27 YEARS, WITH 10 YEAR GRACE PERIOD.

7. ONLY INTER-ARAB ARGUING TO FILTER OUT WAS MOROCCAN REQUEST TO ADD "HEGEMONY" TO LIST OF CONDEMNED -ISMS, IN APPARENT ATTEMPT TO NEEDLE ALGERIANS AND SOVIETS. ATTEMPT FAILED.

8. POUCHING TO DEPARTMENT ALL AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING SPEECH TEXTS, LIST OF PARTICIPANTS, AND FINAL DECLARATION.

9. COMMENT: CONFERENCE'S ABILITY TO REACH AGREEMENT ON DECLARATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION PARTIALLY REFLECTS CON-

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TINUING DRAFT STATUS WHICH THESE DOCUMENTS WILL HAVE UNTIL THEY ARE GIVEN FINAL APPROVAL BY AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT. ON OTHER HAND, CONSENSUS AT CONFERENCE WAS NOT SUFFICIENT TO PERMIT AGREEMENT ON JOINT COMMUNIQUE INTENDED TO BE MADE PUBLIC.
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